

COUNCIL ON HOUSING
Public Session
Buena Vista Conference Center
New Castle, Delaware
December 12, 2012

Motions

- Approval of November 14, 2012 Minutes.
- Approval of Resolution No.454, Russell Huxtable recognition.

January 9, 2013 Agenda Items

- Housing Policy Committee – 2013 areas of interest results.
- DSHA staff – “Impediments to Fair Housing” presentation.

Important Dates

- December 14, 2012 – Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Qualified Action Plan (QAP) public hearing.
- January 30, 2013 – DSHA Joint Finance Committee budget hearing.
- January 31 – first round of Housing Development Fund (HDF) applications due.
- February 27 – DSHA Bond Bill Committee hearing.

Ruth Sokolowski, Chair, called to order the public session of the Council on Housing at 11:10 a.m. on December 12, 2012. In addition to Ms. Sokolowski, the following Council members were present:

Pat Batchelor	Corrine Massey
Francis Julian	Donna Mitchell
Hugh Leahy	Vincent White
Connie Louder	Norma Zumsteg

The following Council member was absent and excused from the meeting:

Ralph Peters

Also attending were the following Delaware State Housing Authority (DSHA) employees:

Lynda Blythe, Administrative Specialist III
Calvin Bonniwell, Housing Project/Loan Manager
Patricia Conley, Assistant Housing Finance Administrator
Cindy Deakyne, Housing Asset Manager
Susan Eliason, Director of Housing Development
Matthew Heckles, Legislative and Policy Advisor
H. James Loescher, Housing Project/Loan Manager

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. White moved that the Minutes of November 14, 2012 be approved as written. Ms. Batchelor seconded the motion and the Minutes were unanimously approved.

DSHA REPORT

Mr. Heckles, on behalf of Mr. Ben Addi, Director of the Delaware State Housing Authority, who was out of town and unable to attend the meeting, thanked Council for their diligent work, especially the regarding the Strategic Planning process, throughout 2012. Mr. Heckles then gave the following report:

- Budget Process
 - Ms. Sokolowski was thanked for speaking, and Ms. Batchelor for attending, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) hearing held November 27th.
 - Approximately 10 housing advocates also attended and spoke on behalf of DSHA.
 - January 30, 2013 – Joint Finance Committee hearing for DSHA's budget, time to be determined.
 - February 27 – Bond Bill Committee hearing for DSHA's budget, time to be determined.
- Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Qualified Action Plan (QAP) – December 14, 2012 public hearing will be held at 9:30 a.m. at the DNREC offices in Dover.
- New Horizon-Sussex County Fair Housing Lawsuit
 - An agreement to settle the lawsuit has been reached with Sussex County, the U.S. Department of Justice, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
 - DSHA, as requested in the agreement, will meet with members of the Sussex County government the week of December 17th to support and collaborate with them in their formulating of housing plans and strategies.
 - DSHA staff will give a presentation at the January meeting regarding impediments to fair housing.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LOAN REVIEW – Mr. Leahy reported on the committee's December 3rd meeting:

- No LIHTC applications had been received; however, it is hoped there will be some in January 2013.
- Strategic Planning issues were discussed including long-range funding of the Housing Development Fund.

OPERATIONS – Ms. Louder had no report at this time.

HOUSING POLICY – Ms. Zumsteg, reporting on behalf of Mr. Peters:

- Expressed his and the committee's gratitude to all who participated in evaluating and ranking the areas to be addressed in the coming year.
- The results of the responses will be presented for Council vote at the January 2013 meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS – Ms. Batchelor reported:

- The committee will be preparing for the January and February meetings.

Ms. Sokolowski inquired about a report on Universal Design legislation that appeared in an AARP magazine. Mr. Heckles indicated that new legislation was passed last session. He will distribute it to the full council. The Policy Committee will review the matter for possible action by the COH.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

- Ms. Sokolowski presented Resolution No. 454, recognizing Mr. Russ Huxtable for recent service as a Council member, to Council for approval. Ms. Zumsteg moved, and Mr. Leahy seconded, the motion that the Resolution be approved with noted changes. The motion was unanimously approved.
- The 2013 Proposed Schedule of Meetings was presented.

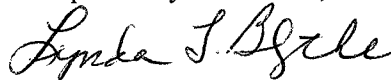
SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on January 9, 2013, at 2:00 p.m., at Luther Towers I in Dover, DE.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion made by Ms. Zumsteg, seconded by Ms. Louder, and unanimously passed by the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m. at which time the Council annual luncheon was held.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynda T. Blythe

Note: Copies of materials referenced as "attached" in these Minutes are available upon request.